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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore [Mr. GIBBONS].

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,

July 30, 1997.
I hereby designate the Honorable JIM GIB-BONS to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NEWT GINGRICH,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Rev. James David Ford, D.D., offered the following pray-

May Your good word, O God, that comforts and gives strength, be with those who have suffered from violence and hatred and who have experienced the brutality of conflict. We remember especially those innocents who go about their daily lives seeking only to do their work and know their families and yet who suffer so tragically from the cruelty of malice and hatred. In spite of the strife known to nations and peoples, we pray that we will be instruments of peace and messengers of goodwill so that everyone may know the bounty of Your grace and Your peace.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from California [Mr. FARR]

come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. FARR of California led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed with amendments in which the concurrence of the House is requested, bills of the House of the following titles:

H.R. 2209. An act making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes; and

H.R. 2266. An act making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other

The message also announced that the Senate insists upon its amendments to the bill (H.R. 2209) "An Act making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes," requests a conference with the House on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and appoints Mr. BENNETT, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. DORGAN, Mrs. BOXER, and Mr. BYRD, to be the conferees on the part of the Sen-

The message also announced that the Senate insists upon its amendment to the bill (H.R. 2266) "An Act making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes," requests a conference with the House on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and appoints Mr. STEVENS, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. BOND, Mr. McCon-NELL, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. GREGG, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. INOUYE, Mr. HOLLINGS, Mr. Byrd, Mr. Leahy, Mr. Bumpers,

Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. HARKIN, and Mr. DORGAN, to be the conferees on the part of the Senate.

The message also announced that the Senate insists upon its amendment to the bill (H.R. 1757) "An Act to consolidate international affairs agencies, to authorize appropriations for the Department of State and related agencies for fiscal years 1998 and 1999, and to ensure that the enlargement of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) proceeds in a manner consistent with . United States interests, to strengthen relations between the United States and Russia, to preserve the prerogatives of the Congress with respect to certain arms control agreements, and for other purposes", disagreed to by the House and agrees to the conference asked by the House on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and appoints Mr. Helms, Mr. Coverdell, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. GRAMS, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. SARBANES, and Mr. DODD, to be the conferees on the part of the Senate.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain ten 1-minute speeches from each side.

TAX RELIEF

(Mr. TIAHRT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, it appears to finally be here, we have an agreement on tax relief for working Americans. Congress and the White House have come together and developed a package that will sustain a strong

Is it perfect or the best we could do? Probably not. But in a democracy we all give a little. So it is not perfect but tax relief is necessary and it is long

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m. Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

